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MINUTES

OF THE

FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

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CANAAN

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

CAHABA CHURCH,

JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA,

OCTOBER 6th, 7th and 8th, 1877.

A. J. WALDROP, ...*MODERATOR.*
J. H. WEATHERLY, ...*RECORDING SECRETARY.*
T. V. B. MOOR, ...*CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.*
M. K. VANN, ...*TREASURER.*

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PRINTED AT SOCIETY, MOORE AND CO.'S PRINTING.
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MINUTES.

——:o:——

The delegates from the churches composing the Forty-fourth Annual Session of the Canaan Baptist Association met with the Cahaba Church, Trussville, Jefferson county, Ala., at 11 A. M. on Saturday, October 6, 1877

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder G. T. Lee at 11 A. M., from Psalms, 73:1.

At 2 P. M. the body was convened in the Academy by Elder A. J. Waldrop, the Moderator.

After singing and prayer, the letters from the churches were presented and read.

The following names of delegates were enrolled, viz:

Ruhama—Elders A. J. Waldrop and E. B. Waldrop; Brethren W. H. Wood and R. W. Beck.

Cahaba—M. K. Vann, J. M. Franklin, W. W. Praytor and David Salms.

Village Creek—Elder B. M. Waldrop and Brother C. Williams.

Salem—J. L. Watson, David Glenn and Wm. McCombs.

First Church of Birmingham—Elder J. H. Weatherly, E. L. Milner and N. F. Miles.

Rock Creek—Richard S. Waldrop.

Canaan—W. S Harrison and Elder James Grimes.

Mount Zion—R. Blythe, A. J. Nunnally, T. B. Bradford and T. V. B. Moor.

Sulphur Springs—S. G. Robertson.

Antioch—R. T. Waldrop.

Good Hope—T. B. Robins and Elder M. R. Mathas.

New Liberty—J. E. Massey and Elders W. J. Lee and G. T. Lee.

Pleasant Ridge—S. T. Huey, B. B. Waldrop and M. Robertson.

Shady Grove—Wm. Houston, John Acker and Elder J. D. Mills.

Enon—James Baird, Martin P. Rogers and John M. Hagood.

Hopewell—A. J. Tadlock.

Chalybeate Springs—R. C. Russell.

Proceeded to elect officers. Elder A. J. Waldrop was chosen Moderator; Elder J. H. Weatherly, Recording Secretary; T. V. B. Moor, Corresponding Secretary, and M. K. Vann, Treasurer—all of whom accepted.

On motion, the order of business of the last session was adopted for the time being.

On motion, a Committee on Devotion was appointed, composed of the Deacons of Cahaba Church, viz: M. K. Vann, O. A. Franklin and J. S. Carlisle, and three members of the body, viz: T. V. B. Moor, N. F. Miles and J. B. Robins.

Messengers from corresponding bodies were called for, when the following brethren were welcomed to seats and our councils, viz: Elder Whit Inzer and Brethren Pinkney White and ———— from the Cahaba Valley Association. Brother W. Y. Adams, of the Warrior River Association, presented minutes.

Elder T. M. Bailey, Corresponding Secretary of the State Mission Board, was cordially received.

The following Special Committees were now appointed, viz:

On Documents—W T Parker and Elders B M Waldrop and M R Mathas.

On Arrangements—Elder G T Lee and Brethren J M Huey and John E Massey.

On Finance—N F Miles and E L Milner.

On motion, correspondence with the following bodies was appointed, viz:

Warrior River—John E Massey and Elder G T Lee.

Coosa River—Jno L Watson, A J Nunnally and T B Bradford.

North River—C Williams and Elder B M Waldrop.

Cahaba Valley—John L Watson and Elders G T Lee and James Grimes.

Shelby—Elders G T Lee and J D Miles.

Baptist State Convention—Elders J H Weatherly, A J Waldrop, James Grimes, G T Lee, J D Mills and E B Waldrop, and Brethren J M Huey, R J Waldrop, T V B Moor, R W Beck, J L Watson, Richard S Waldrop, N F Miles, T B Bradford, W T Parker, M M Wood, T L Hudgins, J E Massey and E L Milner.

On motion, Elder T M Bailey was requested to preach the Missionary Sermon on Sabbath, at 11 A M, and Elder A J Waldrop was relieved at his own request.

On motion, 10 A M Monday was set for Brother T. M. Bailey to address the body on the subject of State Missions.

On motion, the distribution of the funds that may be collected for missions on Sabbath is deferred until Monday.

The committee appointed at the last session to report in regard to the action of Shady Grove Church in the case of W T Rogers, reported as follows:

That said church received them with kindly feelings; that she reconsidered her action in the case of said Rogers, viz: receiving and rebaptizing him; that she had erred unintentionally; that she had rescinded her action; and that they had appointed a committee to demand the letter granted said Rogers.

On motion, resolved that this body considers Shady Grove in good order and free from all blame in the case of W T Rogers.

Correspondence from Sunday Schools having been overlooked under its proper head, was called for, when Brethren S T Vann and A W Carswell, on the part of Cahaba Sunday School, presented themselves bearing an interesting letter.

Brethren R J Waldrop and H F Wood appeared with a letter of great interest to represent the Ruhama Sunday School. All were welcomed. For the items of interest, see Sunday School Report.

The Committee on Devotions reported as follows: Elder J T Mills to preach at 7:30 to-night; Sunday School mass meeting at 9:30 A M; Sunday to be addressed by Brethren Thos M Bailey, R J Waldrop, W T Parker and others.

On motion, adjourned to meet at 9 A M on Monday.

SABBATH.

9 A M—The Sunday School mass meeting met in the church. The assemblage filled the house. Addresses were delivered by Brethren W T Parker, R J Waldrop and —— Carswell and Elder T M Bailey. It was an impressive meeting.

11 A M—The Missionary Sermon was preached at the church by Elder T M Bailey. On account of the large concourse of people present, it was thought best by the Devotional Committee to have a sermon on the same subject at the Academy. Elder A J Waldrop was accordingly appointed to that service, and filled it. Collections were taken up for missions at each place, and the amounts taken up in cash and pledges aggregated about $43 45.

3 P M—The educational mass meeting appointed for this hour twelve months ago took place. According to arrangement at last session, Brother R W Beck delivered an address on the subject of education. He was followed by Elder T M Bailey on ministerial education, and about $100 were then raised in pledges for the maintenance of Brother Morgan M. Wood as a theological student at Howard College during the year 1877-78.

7:30 P M—Elder T M Bailey preached at the church.

MONDAY.

9 A M—The body convened, and after prayer and singing proceeded to business.

Report on the Order of Business was called for, read and adopted. The succeeding otder will indicate the matter of the report :

On motion, called the roll and marked absentees.

The Committee on Documents reported as follows :

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

We your committee beg leave to report that we find the churches in a healthy, wholesome condition. There is, however, great need of ministerial and pastoral work within our bounds. Not one church in our Association has preaching regularly every Sabbath. Most of the churches have good working Sunday Schools. But a small proportion of our members are, however, engaged in this work. Several churches request the continuance of our Sunday School Committee.

Salem, Antioch, Canaan, Ruhama and Mount Zion churches each request the next meeting of our body.

There is no question in the church letters touching discipline. We are happy to know that no subject of discord exists among our churches.

We would respectfully recommend to every Baptist or Baptist family within our bounds to subscribe and pay for the Alabama Baptist and Kind Words. In the former we have an excellent means of communication with each other, and in the latter a first rate and charming Sunday School and child's paper. W. T. PARKER, Chairman.

Received and adopted.

As the standing Committee on Education failed to offer a report, the following was offered und ananimously received and adopted :

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Resolved, That this Association adopt Brother M. M. Wood as our beneficiary at Howard College, and that Brethren T V B Moor, R W Beck, John M Franklin, E L Milner and S T Huey be appointed a committee to collect funds for that purpose, and that the same be paid to Brother N F Miles for the education of Brother Wood to become a minister of our gospel.

The above was offered by W T Parker.

Pending this resolution about $50 were raised for Brother M M Wood's support, which, added to the amount raised on the Sabbath, aggregated about $150 in pledges for this object. Brother Bailey rendered very efficient service in this matter.

On motion, a committee consisting of Brethren R. W. Beck, T. B. Bradford, S. T. Huey, T. B. Robins and S. G. Robertson were appointed to arrange the time and place of next meeting, and the appointment of preachers for the introductory and missionary sermons.

10 A. M—According to previous arrangement, Elder T. M. Bailey, in his accustomed effective and earnest manner, gave the body an account of the nature and extent of the State mission work and of the plans of the board. He then appealed to ministers and other members of the body to pledge for their churches. Quite a number responded ; some specific amounts ; others what they could.

On motion, the standing Committee on Temperance, having no report, was excused, and its place on the list of standing committees blotted out.

Report on Sunday Schools was received and adopted by a unanimous rising vote :

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

In looking over the Sunday School interests of our Association we find that there is a tendency on the part of many of our church ministers to consider the Sunday School as simply belonging to children alone.—This we deplore. We consider the Sunday School the place for the whole church to assemble each Sabbath for work in the Master's cause. We do not class it as one of the insignificancies of life, to be left entirely to a few of the younger members of the church, but on the contrary we deem it a

work of importance, thereby requiring all the talent, all the piety, all the strength and all the experience of the church. It is the Master's work, and no christian can ask exemption from its claims, unless it is wholly impracticable by providential interposition. Glorious in its results and consequences, it should be done joyfully and hopefully. The object of the Sunday School is grand and broad. It is the same as the Master had in making his appearance and living upon the earth—the conversion and saving of souls. It is for the purpose of instructing in "All the word of God." It familiarizes us with "the duties, doctrines and precepts of the Bible," so that "the Man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." It promotes "christian growth and culture" and thereby aims at nothing less than the perfection of the christian character." This work should reach forth towards the Apostle's mark, till we all come in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God unto a perfect man; unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

To the Pastors of the respective churches in our Association we respectfully suggest the importance of encouraging the work—to the Deacons the importance of urging the work perseveringly and zealously—to the members of our churches in general their duty in the work—to all the benefits that may be derived from the work. Let us work faithfully.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS OF CANAAN ASSOCIATION.

	No. enrolled.	Male church members.	Female church members.	Contributed for missions.	Contributed for S. S. purposes.	Duration of S. School.	Superintd't.
Cahaba	75	21	29	$7 50	$26 50	Evergreen,	J. W. Franklin.
Mount Zion	75	15	15	14 00	20 00	do.	T V B Moor.
Village Springs,	—	—	—	——	——	——	——
Enon	—	—	—	——	——	——	——
Hopewell	—	—	—	——	——	——	——
Salem	—	—	—	——	——	——	——
Ruhama	87	22	19	6 50	12 00	Evergreen.	R. J. Waldrop.
Birmingham	66	7	10	——	15 75	do.	W. T. Parker.
Cha. Springs	38	6	9	——	——	three months	R. C. Russell.
Sul. Springs	20	3	3	——	——	four months	J.H. Weatherly.
Village Creek	—	—	—	——	——	——	——
Pleasant Ridge	25	10	8	——	——	——	S. T. Huey.
Rock Creek	—	—	—	——	——	——	——
Shady Grove	—	—	—	——	——	——	——
Canaan	35	6	10	——	——	——	S. L. Ezell.
Good Hope	—	—	—	——	——	——	——
Antioch	—	—	—	——	——	——	——
Total	416	91	103	$27 50	$73 35		

On motion, the present Sunday School Board is continued, and Brother W. T. Parker was added to it.

12 M.—Adjourned for dinner, to meet at 1:30 P. M.

At 1:30 P. M. the body was called to order by Brother T. V. B. Moor, and the Moderator being on temporary absence, Brother W. T. Parker was, on motion, called to the chair. After singing and prayer by the Moderator pro tem, proceeded to business.

On motion, the Report on Missions was received and adopted without discussion.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Your committee appointed at the last session on the subject of missions beg leave to submit the following report: That when the first great missionary commenced his labors for the propagation of the Gospel, many dif-

ficulties and obstacles were before him. A world enchained by the power and strength of heathenism was freed by the boldness and the preaching of the apostle Paul. Lydia was the first convert to christianity in Europe under his preaching, and from the first woman converted at Philippi, the influence of the Gospel of Christ has spread by its preaching until the empires and kingdoms of Europe and of the world have bowed before the power of the preached gospel. We as Missionary Baptists, therefore, should imitate the example of the first great missionary, and should obey the divine injunction to "Go ye, therefore, into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

We would recommend to the churches of this Association as deserving their prayers and support the Foreign Missionary Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Dr. Tupper of Richmond, Corresponding Secretary; the Home Board at Marion, Ala.; Dr. W. H. McIntosh, Corresponding Secretary, and the State Board, under the direction of the State Baptist Convention, located at Marion, Rev. T. M. Bailey, Corresponding Secretary. These several Mission Boards demand your active support. We would urge upon the Pastors of the different churches to give this subject their careful consideration, and to see that for these great works that our brethren and sisters give to the cause "as God has prospered them" in their worldly affairs. Our churches will prosper in direct proportion to the labor bestowed upon them. Heaven helps those who help themselves. May our churches become convinced of their duty to the cause, and may they manfully discharge every duty. Respectfully submitted. W. T. PARKER, Chm'n.

On motion, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas the Alabama Baptist State Convention at its last session did inaugurate a plan for a more thorough evangelization of the State by districting the State, and employing efficient ministers as evangelists in districts;

And whereas our State Board must look to the churches *directly* composing each district for the support of the minister who labors with and for said churches; therefore,

Be it resolved by the Canaan Association now in session—

1. That we most heartily endorse the action of our Convention, and that we will co-operate with our State Board in the work.

2. As a means of more effectually carrying out the intent of these resolutions, that we will appoint seven brethren as a committee whose duty it shall be to co operate with our State Board; and they are requested to hold missionary mass meetings with the churches of that association during the associational year.

On motion, the following brethren were appointed a Committee on State Missions: R. W. Beck, T. V. B. Moor, S. T. Huey, W. T. Parker, S. R. Waldrop, W. J. Eubank and J. M. Franklin.

The Moderator here resumed his seat.

The committee on time and place of next meeting and the appointment of preachers reported the following:

Resolved, That article I, section 7, of the Constitution be changed so as to read thus: The meeting of the delegates shall be held on the Thursday preceding the first Sabbath in September in each year. Received.

Resolved, That Elder E. B. Waldrop be appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next meeting, and that the Missionary Sermon be left to the arrangement of the Devotional Committee at that time. Received and adopted.

On motion, the first resolution was so amended as to read as follows: That the delegates shall meet at 9 A. M. on Friday before the first Sabbath in September in each year.

On motion, the body released Elder A. J. Waldrop from the duty (assigned him one year since) of writing a history of this Association.

On motion, the collection on Sabbath for missions shall be appropriated to the State Mission Board.

On motion, the report of the Finance Committee was received and adopted :

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Received for educational purposes	6 50
Received for minutes	33 55
Paid over to Treasurer	$40 05

N. F. MILES, Chairman.

On motion, resolved that the sum of $6 50 in the hands of the Treasurer for associational purposes be applied to the discharge of a debt due Elder A. J. Waldrop by the Association.

On motion, the Treasurer's Report was received and adopted :

REPORT OF TREASURER.

Canaan Association in account with M. K. Vann, Treasurer.

DR.

October 8, 1877—To amount paid for correspondents				$13 90	
"	"	"	home missions	29 85	
"	"	"	Indian missions	19 75	
"	"	"	State missions	23 45	
"	"	"	minutes	39 65	—126 50

CR.

October 8, 1877—By amount received for correspondents				13 90	
"	"	"	home missions	29 85	
"	"	"	Indian missions,	19 75	
"	"	"	State missions	23 45	
"	"	"	minutes	39 65	—126 60

On motion, resolved that the thanks of this Association be given to the Cahaba Church and its members, and to the citizens of Trussville and vicinity, for their kindness and hospitality extended to us during the session of this body at this place. Adopted unanimously.

On motion, the body voted the Clerk $10 for his services.

On motion, the Association adjourned to meet with the Ruhama Church at 9 o'clock A. M. on Friday before the first Sabbath in September, 1878.

After prayer by Elder M. R. Mathas, the hymn

"How firm a foundation," etc.,

was sung, and the brethren took the parting hand.

A. J. WALDROP, Moderator.

J. H. WEATHERLY, Recording Secretary.

Received of J. H. Weatherly, Recording Secretary, Twenty-three dollars for printing seven hundred copies of these minutes.

PARKER & McLAUGHLIN, Printers.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	PASTOR'S POST OFFICE	Baptized	Received by letter	Restored	Dismissed	Excluded	Deceased	Total membership	Associational purposes	Minutes	State missions	Home missions	Indian missions	Foreign Missions	Howard College	Church expenses, pastor's salary, etc.
——hama	A J Waldrop	Birmingham.	2			9		1	115		$2 65	$71 00			$4 50		$113 50
——ahaba	A J Waldrop	"	1	13		7	3	2	186		8 00	11 75		$6 40	6 35		116 20
Village Creek	B M Waldrop	"		2		9		1	35		1 60						
——lem	E B Waldrop	"		1	1	8	3		69		2 00						50 00
——rmingham Ch	A J Waldrop	"							58		2 00						
——ock Creek	—— White	Toadvine.		1		6	5		60		2 00						
Canaan	G T Lee	Bridgeton.		1		8	4	2	49		1 20	63 00	11 00	80			
Mount Zion	A J Waldrop	Birmingham.	10	3		14		1	111	$3 25	3 00					$2 00	175 00
Sulphur Springs	E B Waldrop	"	1					1	53	1 30	2 00						
Good Hope	M R Mathas	Robins'XRoads	17	13	1	8	1		77		2 00						
Antioch	M R Mathas--B M Waldrop	Birmingham.	22	10		3	1		59	1 40	1 50						
New Liberty	E B Waldrop	"				4			33		1 00						
Pleasant Ridge,	E B Waldrop	"		4				1	47		1 45				3 75		75 00
Enon	W J Lee	Village Springs	5			4			27	55	1 00						
Hopewell,	W J Lee	"		1		5			34		1 40						
Shady Grove	J D Mills	Green Pond.	3			3	1	1	34		75						
——ha. Springs	James Grimes	Jonesboro.		5		2			32		2 00						
			61	54	2	90	18	10	1081	$6 50	$36 55	145 75	$11 00	$7 20	$14 60	$2 00	$529 70